

Application Number : 10/098,714                      Confirmation Number: 3043  
Applicant : Kevin D. MacLean et al.  
Filed : 15 March 2002  
TC/A.U. : 2128  
Examiner : Alhija, Saif A.  
  
Docket Number : NMTC-0770  
Customer No. : 30,185

Record of Interview  
Via Electronic Filing

### **RECORD OF INTERVIEW**

Sir:

In response to the interview conducted on **23 October 2007**, please find a record of the interview below.

#### **Identification of Claims and Prior Art Discussed**

Applicant and Examiner discussed Cobb (WO 00/67974) as applied to independent claims 1, 11, 21, 31, 32, and 33 of the instant application.

#### **Applicant's Arguments**

Applicant pointed out to Examiner that Cobb did not disclose using the previously calculated solution for the preceding cell as an initial input to the iterative process for the target cell, wherein the iterative process involves one or more repetitions of simulating a current solution for the target cell to produce a

current simulated layout. In addition, Applicant pointed out that Cobb did not disclose “wherein the target cell is similar to a preceding cell if ... a layout of a target cell matches a layout of a preceding cell, but an environment surrounding the target cell differs from an environment surrounding the preceding cell.

### **Outcome of Interview**

Examiner and Applicant could not agree that Cobb did not anticipate embodiments of the present invention. Hence, Applicant agreed to review the claims for further amendments or to take the application up on appeal.

Respectfully submitted,

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